BIS rules disadvantageous to its employees

601. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Assistant Director appointed temporarily in the Bureau of Indian Standards has to reimburse an amount equivalent to his six months salary if he opts to resign while if the Bureau terminates his services its liability is limited only to one month's notice or one month's pay in lieu thereof;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any other office institutions under the administrative control of the Ministry also have such rules; if so, the names thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In accordance with Regulation 6(2) (g) of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Recruitment to Scientific Cadre) Regulations, 1988, a candidate, on appointment to the post of Assistant Director through competitive examination, is required to furnish a surety bond in the form specified by the Bureau, for serving the Bureau for a minimum period of three years. If he decides to leave the service either by resignation or absence from service without permission earlier than three years from the date of employment, he is required to reimburse the Bureau six months' emoluments at the rate last drawn by him unless he has worked for a shorter period in which case he has to reimburse the full amount drawn by him.

(b) The refund of salary by Assistant Directors recruited through competitive examination is for partial reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Bureau on their training given for a period of one year. The provision about Bureau's liability being limited only to one month's notice or one month's pay in lieu there of in cases where the Bureau terminate the services of any employees is on the basis of similar provision made in Central Civil Services (Temporary Service) Rules, 1965. This provision applies to all categories of employees, including Assistant Directors who are on probation. Many Public Sector Undertakings like Steel Authority of India, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, etc. have made similar provisions in their Rules/Regulations.

(c) No, Sir.

Pending Applications of Bank Employees in Punjab

602. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications filed by the Bank employees in Punjab for reference of disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act against the various Bank managements which are still pending; and

(b) the number of applications dismissed and disputes referred for adjudication during each of the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Encourangement to Food Processing Industries in Punjab besides the Pepsi-Cola Project

603. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to encourage food processing industries in Punjab besides the Pepsi-Cola Project;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the number of applications pending with Government and their present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) One of the main objectives of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is to encourage setting up of food processing units in various States including Punjab. Comments of the Government of Punjab have been sought on an application received from M/s. H.M.M. Ltd. for substantial expansion for manufacture of malted milk food at their existing unit at Nabha, Punjab.

A few more applications have been received from the State of Punjab for manufacture of alcohol from non-molasses base.

Supply of Steel Structures by Aphm & E to Visakhapatnam steel plant

604. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel structures in tonnes the Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery and Engineering Company supplied to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant site as per the contract;

(b) whether it is a fact that 170 tonnes of items taken to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant site were missing there;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there were complaints of misappropriation of Rs. 20 crores in the construction of reservoirs;

(d) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote to the Government of India to conduct an open inquiry into the alleged irregularities; and

(e) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) About 8550 tonnes.

(b) In a Police complaint lodged on 16.2.1987 by Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery and Engineering Company, 169,478 tonnes of fabricated steel structures were reported as missing.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Shortage of Fodder and Drinking Water in A. P.

605. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had been apprised by the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the shortage of fodder and drinking water owing to the serious drought conditions prevailing in the state; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken to help the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to tide over the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) While Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported shortage of fodder and drinking water due to failure of North-East Monsoon in some districts of the State, no memorandum seeking Central assitance for drought relief has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Permission to DCM for sale of Land

606. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DCM had been permitted to sell the land at present occupied by them;

(b) the extent to which it is likely to affect the land use pattern of the old Delhi area; and